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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4368th meeting of the Security Council, held on 10 September 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in East Timor", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls its previous resolutions and the statements of its President on the situation in East Timor.

"The Security Council warmly welcomes the successful staging on 30 August 2001 of the elections for East Timor's first Constituent Assembly, in particular the orderly and peaceful conduct of the elections and the very high voter turnout, which demonstrated the wish of the East Timorese people to establish a full participatory democracy. In that regard, the Council recognizes with appreciation the important role of the East Timorese leadership and welcomes the cooperation extended by the Government of Indonesia during the election period.

"The Security Council expresses its appreciation to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor for facilitating a smooth and representative election process. The Security Council calls on all parties to fully respect and implement the election results which provide the basis for a broad-based Constituent Assembly. The Security Council looks forward to the establishment on 15 September of the Constituent Assembly and the new Cabinet within the framework of resolution 1272 (1999). The Security Council calls upon all parties to work together to draft a constitution which reflects the will of the East Timorese people and to cooperate for the successful completion of the final steps towards independence, in a complex process of stabilization in East Timor which will take some time and will involve many actors.

"The Security Council reiterates the importance of a substantial international presence in East Timor post-independence.

"The Security Council looks forward to receiving the Secretary-General's October report focusing on the transition and post-independence periods."

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